



Atty. Docket No.: DEXNON/096/US

CLEAN COPY OF THE AMENDMENT

RECEIVED
FEB 13 2003

TC 1700

C1 1. A fibrous non-woven non-heat seal porous web material consisting of a single, wet laid layer and comprising 0.5 to 25 percent by weight of synthetic material with natural fibers comprising the remainder of said web material.

2. The web material of claim 1, comprising 1 to 10 percent by weight synthetic material.

3. The web material of claim 2, wherein the natural fibers are selected from jute, kraft, abaca, hemp, kenaf, wood and mixtures thereof.

Sub D1 4. The web material of claim 1, having a basis weight of 9 to 19 g/m².

C3 6. The web material of claim 1, wherein the synthetic material comprises synthetic pulp having a micro-fibrillar structure with natural fibers comprising the remainder of said web material.

C4 8. The web material of claim 1, wherein the synthetic material is selected from polyethylene, polypropylene, polyester and mixtures thereof.

C5 9. The web material of claim 1 comprising first phase constituents comprising at least one of synthetic material or natural fibers and second phase constituents comprising at least one of synthetic material or natural fibers, wherein the constituents of each phase are substantially homogeneously distributed throughout the single wet laid layer.

C6 11. The web material of claim 1, wherein the natural fibers comprise long natural fibers.

CLEAN COPY OF THE AMENDMENT

C6
C6a 12. The web material of claim 1 having a dry crimp strength at least twenty percent greater than a fibrous non-woven non-heat seal porous web material consisting of the same fibers but without the synthetic material.

15. An infusion package comprising the web material of claim 1, said web material being mechanically folded without heat sealing to enclose a beverage precursor material therein.

Sub D1
C7 16. A process of making a fibrous non-woven non-heat seal porous web material of enhanced dry crimp strength comprising:
forming a slurry of natural fibers;
adding synthetic materials to said slurry to form a furnish;
wet laying said furnish to form a single layer web; and
drying said web to form said web material, wherein the amount and activation of synthetic materials in the web material provides the web material with a heat seal seam strength that is not acceptable for use as a heat sealable, infusion packaging web material.

21. The process of claim 16 including the steps of forming an additional furnish comprising at least one of synthetic material or natural fibers and wet laying one of the furnishes over the other furnish to form the single layer web, wherein the synthetic material and natural fibers are substantially homogeneously distributed throughout the single layer web.

C8 22. A non-woven porous web material, wherein:
the web material consists of a single, wet laid layer;
the web material has a basis weight from about 9 g/m² to about 19 g/m²;
the web material is acceptable for use as infusion packaging web material;
the web material has a heat seal seam strength that is unacceptable for use as a heat sealable, infusion packaging web material; and

CLEAN COPY OF THE AMENDMENT

the web material comprises a substantially homogeneous mixture of about 0.5 percent to about 25 percent by weight of synthetic material selected from polyethylene, polypropylene, polyester and mixtures thereof and about 75 percent to about 95.5 percent of natural fibers.

CG
Gaut
Sub D1